

“True devotion to the heart of Jesus”

Jesus Christus, perfectus Deus, perfectus Homo-- Jesus Christ, perfect God and perfect Man. There are many Christians who follow Christ and are astonished by his divinity, but forget him as Man. And they fail in the practice of supernatural virtues, despite all the external paraphernalia of piety, because they do nothing to acquire human virtues. (Furrow, 652)

10 January

Fall in love with the Sacred Humanity of Jesus Christ. Aren't you glad that he should have wanted to be like us? Thank Jesus for this wonderful expression of his goodness. (The Forge, 547)

I give you thanks, my Jesus, for your decision to become perfect Man, with a Heart which loved and is most loveable; which loved unto death and suffered; which was filled with joy and sorrow; which delighted in the things of men and showed us the way to Heaven; which subjected itself heroically to duty and acted with mercy; which watched over the poor and the rich and cared for sinners and the just. I give you thanks, my Jesus. Give us hearts to measure up to Yours! (Furrow, 813)

That is what true devotion to the heart of Jesus means. It is knowing God and ourselves. It is looking at Jesus and turning to him, letting him encourage and teach and guide us. The greatest superficiality that can beset this devotion would be a lack of humanity, a failure to understand the reality of an incarnate God.

Jesus on the cross, with his heart overflowing with love for men, is such an eloquent commentary on the value of people and things that words only get in the way. (Christ is passing by, 164-165)